AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 - Cancelled

16. (New) A method for a registry of business entity definitions to handle user requests to access business entity definitions, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a user to access a business entity definition;

obtaining the identity of the user from data associated with the request,;

determining whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user; and

denying the user access to information in the business entity definition if it is determined that the user does not have permission;

wherein the information in the business entity definition comprises a plurality of information elements each having permission details associated therewith;

wherein determining whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining from permission details associated with each information element whether the user has permission to access that information element; and

wherein denying the user access to information in the business entity definition if it is determined that the user does not have permission comprises denying the user access to those information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have permission.

17. (New)   The method of claim 16 wherein the request specifies a search criteria, and wherein the method further comprises:

determining what information in the business entity definition the user wishes to access using the search criteria to locate the business entity definition; and

determining whether the user has permission to access the information that the user wishes to access.

18. (New)   The method of claim 16, wherein determining whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining whether a user has permission to access an information element from an access policy and permission details associated with a different information element.

19. (New)   The method of claim 18 wherein the information elements are in a hierarchy and wherein determining whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining that a user does not have permission to access a first information element if permission details associated with one or more second information elements directly beneath the first information element in the hierarchy indicate that user does not have access to one or more of the second information elements.

20. (New)   A registry of business entity definitions for handling requests to access

business entity definitions, the registry comprising:

means for receiving a request from a user to access a business entity definition;

means for obtaining the identity of the user from data associated with the

request;

means for determining whether the user has permission to access information in

the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity

definition and the identity of the user; and

means for denying the user access to information in the business entity definition

if it is determined that the user does not have permission;

wherein the information in the business entity definition comprises a plurality of

information elements each having permission details associated therewith;

wherein the means for determining comprises means for determining from

permission details associated with each information element whether the user has

permission to access that information element; and

wherein the means for denying comprises means for denying the user access to

those information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have

permission.

21. (New)   The registry of claim 20 wherein the request specifies a search criteria,

and wherein the registry further comprises:

means for determining what information in the business entity definition the user

wishes to access using the search criteria to locate the business entity definition.

22. (New)   The registry of claim 20, wherein the means for determining whether the

user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from

permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the

user further comprises means for determining whether a user has permission to access

an information element from an access policy and permission details associated with a

different information element.

23. (New)   The registry of claim 22 wherein the information elements are in a

hierarchy and the access policy specifies that a user does not have permission to

access a first information element if permission details associated with one or more

second information elements directly beneath the first information element in the

hierarchy indicate that user does not have access to one or more of the second

information elements.

24. (New)   The registry of claim 20, further comprising:

means for locating the permission details in a file system in which the permission

details are in a location in the file system which is defined according to the information

element with which they are associated.

25. (New)   The registry of claim 20, wherein the registry is a UDDI registry and the

information in the business entity definition is a business entity information element, the

business entity information element containing one or more business service entity

information elements, each business service entity containing one or more binding

template information elements and each binding template containing one or more

references each referring to a technical model information element.

26. (New)   A computer program product for a registry of business entity definitions to
handle user requests to access business entity definitions, the computer program
product comprising:

   a computer usable medium having computer usable program code embodied
therewith, the computer usable program code comprising:

      computer usable program code configured to receive a request from a

   user to access a business entity definition;

      computer usable program code configured to obtain the identity of the

   user from data associated with the request;

      computer usable program code configured to determine whether the user

   has permission to access information in the business entity definition from

   permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity

   of the user; and

      computer usable program code configured to deny the user access to

   information in the business entity definition if it is determined that the user does

   not have permission;

   wherein the information in the business entity definition comprises a plurality of

information elements each having permission details associated therewith;

wherein the computer usable program code configured to determine whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises computer usable program code configured to determine from permission details associated with each information element whether the user has permission to access that information element; and

wherein the computer usable program code configured to deny the user access to information in the business entity definition if it is determined that the user does not have permission comprises computer usable program code configured to deny the user access to those information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have permission.

27. (New) · · The computer program product of claim 26 wherein the request specifies a search criteria, and further comprising:

computer usable program code configured to determine what information in the business entity definition the user wishes to access using the search criteria to locate the business entity definition; and

computer usable program code configured to determine whether the user has permission to access the information that the user wishes to access.

28. (New) The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the computer usable program code configured to determine whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the

business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises computer usable

program code configured to determine whether a user has permission to access an

information element from an access policy and permission details associated with a

different information element.

29. (New)   The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the information

elements are in a hierarchy and wherein determining whether the user has permission

to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated

with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining that

a user does not have permission to access a first information element if permission

details associated with one or more second information elements directly beneath the

first information element in the hierarchy indicate that user does not have access to one

or more of the second information elements.